

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 094722
ORIGIN HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 AGRE-00 COME-00
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-20 /054 R

DRAFTED BY DHEW/FDA: WJKUSTKA:VB
APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN: WJWALSH, III
DHEW/PHS/OASH/OIH: REVANS
NEA/EGY:KHOMAN (INFO)
NE/ME/E:BPORTER(INFO)

-----122866 131851Z /46

R 131428Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS STATE 094722

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, EG

BJE : FISHMEAL WITH POSSIBLE CONTAMINATION WITH POLY-
CHLORINTED BIPHENYLS(PCB'S).

1. FDA HAS BECOME AWARE OF CONTAMINATION OF TUNA MEAL AS
A RESULT OF A WAREHOUSE FIRE WHICH CAUSED LARGE TRANSFORMERS
COOLED WITH PCB'S TO EXPLODE. THE TUNA MEAL WAS DISTRIBUTED
AND MIXED WITH OTHER PRODUCTS PRIOR TO THE TIME FDA ENTERED
THE CASE. CURRENT FDA TOLERANCE OF PCB'S IN FISH MEAL
IS 2 PPM AND IN FINISHED ANIMAL FEED FOR FOOD-PRODUCING
ANIMALS IT IS 0.2 PPM. THIS IS FOR UNAVOIDABLE RESIDUES
RESULTING FROM CONTAMINATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT BY PCB'S.
IN THIS CASE FDA TAKES THE POSITION THAT THE CONTAMINATION
WAS AVOIDABLE AND THAT ANY DETECTABLE PCB'S IN THE FISH
MEAL OR FEED MADE WITH IT CAUSES THE PRODUCT TO BE ADULT-
ERATED AS DEFINED IN FOOD, DRUG, AND COSMETIC ACT. DEGREE
OF CONTAMINATION SEEMS TO VARY. FDA FOUND UP TO 2235 PPM
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IN THE TUNA MEAL, WHILE SAMPLES OF A PROTEIN CONCENTRATE
USING THE TUNA MEAL RANGED UP TO 62.3 PPM. RESIDUES
WERE FOUND IN FAT OF CHICKENS AND OTHER FOOD ANIMALS
INGESTING FEED MADE WITH THE TUNA MEAL.

2. SOME OF THIS SUSPECT TUNA MEAL FORMS PART OF A SHIP-
MENT CONSIGNED TO: L. NASR EXPORT AND IMPORT CO.,

CAIRO, FOR ACCT. OF GENERAL POULTRY CO., DOKKI, EGYPT.

3. SALE OF THE PRODUCT WAS VIA THE FIRM, REMCO, P.O.
BOX 114-5001, BEIRUT LEBANON.

4. SHIPMENT WENT VIA GREEK FLAG VESSEL NEFOS 2, OUT OF
PORT ARTHUR TEXAS, 3-10-78, UNLOADING AT ALEXANDRIA.
LOADCONSISTS OF 30 TONS OF SUSPECT TUNA MEAL MIXED WITH
HERRING MEAL TO MAKE 18,051/100 LB BAGS, AND ALSO
INCLUDES 58,374/100 LB BAGS PLAIN HERRING MEAL. BAGS
ARE UNLABELED.

5. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO ALERT EGYPTIAN MINISTRY OF
HEALTH AND/OR FIRM AS MAY SEEM APPROPRIATE.

6. MATERIAL EXPLAINING HAZARDS OF PCB'S AND FDA'S
REGULATORY POSITION IS BEING AIRMAILED. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, FOOD CONTAMINATION, TUNA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE094722
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WJKUSTKA:VB
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D780159-0630
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780461/aaaabzjs.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 54eb39b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN HEW
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2980946
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> VJT 20040916
Subject: FISHMEAL WITH POSSIBLE CONTAMINATION WITH POLY- CHLORINTED BIPHENYLS(PCB'S).
TAGS: SWEL, EG
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/54eb39b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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